

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for storing and securely transmitting digital media data in a networked system, comprising:
 - determining an amount of memory for storing the digital media data;
 - querying a plurality of network computers to determine an amount of available memory in a plurality of memory storage devices associated with the plurality of network computers;
 - receiving the digital media data and partitioning the digital media data into a plurality of digital media data sets;
 - encrypting the plurality of digital media data sets into a plurality of encrypted digital media data sets using at least one encryption key value;
 - storing the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets in at least two of the plurality of memory storage devices associated with the plurality of network computers;
 - retrieving the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets and transmitting the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets to a decryption device; and,
 - decrypting the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets in the decryption device using at least one encryption key value to obtain the digital media data.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein determining an amount of memory for storing the digital media data includes querying a computer of a content provider for a memory storage value associated with the digital media data.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein encrypting the digital media data includes:
receiving at least one encryption key value from the decryption device; and,
encrypting the digital media data using the encryption key value and an encryption algorithm.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein storing the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets includes:
sending a first encrypted digital media data set to a first network computer;
storing the first encrypted digital media data set in a memory storage device associated with the first network computer;
sending a second encrypted digital media data set to a second network computer; and,
storing the second encrypted digital media data set in a memory storage device associated with the second network computer.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein retrieving the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets and transmitting the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets to the decryption device includes:

determining when a user has selected to receive the digital media data;

sending a first digital media data request message to a first network computer to retrieve a first encrypted digital media data set from the first network computer;

sending a second digital media data request message to a second network computer to retrieve a second encrypted digital media data set from the second network computer; and,

transmitting the first and second encrypted digital media data sets to the decryption device.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein decrypting the plurality of digital media data sets includes:

receiving the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets; and,

decrypting the plurality of digital media data sets using at least one encryption key value and a decryption algorithm.

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying the digital media data on a television.

8. A system for storing and securely transmitting digital media data, comprising:
- a first computer configured to determine an amount of memory for storing the digital media data;
 - a first plurality of network computers configured to communicate with the first computer, the first computer configured to query the first plurality of network computers to determine an amount of available memory in a first plurality of memory storage devices associated with the first plurality of network computers;
 - the first computer further configured to receive the digital media data and to partition the digital media data into a plurality of digital media data sets, the first computer further configured to encrypt the plurality of digital media data sets into a plurality of encrypted digital media data sets using at least one encryption key value and to store the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets in at least two of the first plurality of memory storage devices associated with the first plurality of network computers, the first computer further configured to retrieve the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets and to transmit the encrypted digital media data sets to a decryption device; and,
 - the decryption device configured to receive the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets and to decrypt the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets using the at least one encryption key value.

9. The system of claim 8 wherein the decryption device is further configured to receive at least a portion of the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets and to store the portion of the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets in at least two of a second plurality of memory storage devices associated with a second plurality of network computers, the second plurality of network computers communicating with the decryption device.

10. The system of claim 9 wherein the decryption device is further configured to retrieve the portion of the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets stored in the second plurality of memory storage devices when a user selects to receive the digital media data.

11. The system of claim 10 wherein the decryption device is further configured to query the first computer to send the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets stored in the first plurality of memory storage devices when the user selects to receive the digital media data.

12. The system of claim 8 wherein the decryption device is further configured to send the digital media data to a television operably coupled to the decryption device.

13. The system of claim 8 wherein at least a portion of the available memory in the first plurality of memory storage devices comprises non-volatile memory.

14. An article of manufacture, comprising:

a computer storage medium having a computer program encoded therein for storing and securely transmitting digital media data in a networked system, the computer storage medium including:

code for determining an amount of memory for storing the digital media data;

code for querying a plurality of network computers to determine an amount of available memory in a plurality of memory storage devices associated with the plurality of network computers;

code for receiving the digital media data and partitioning the digital media data into a plurality of digital media data sets;

code for encrypting the plurality of digital media data sets into a plurality of encrypted digital media data sets using at least one encryption key value;

code for storing the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets in at least two of the plurality of memory storage devices associated with the plurality of network computers;

code for retrieving the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets and transmitting the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets to a decryption device; and,

code for decrypting the plurality of encrypted digital media data sets at the decryption device using the at least one encryption key value to obtain the digital media data.